Fr. Hai’s Corner

2015 A.D. is here!

“Happy are those who reject the advice of evil people, who do not follow the example of sinners or join those who have no use for God. Instead, they find joy in obeying the Law of the Lord, and they study it day and night. They are like trees that grow beside a stream, that bear fruit at the right time and whose leaves do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do.” Psalm 1:1-3.

My dear parishioners of St. Thomas More. It is a new year and God will continue to bless those that follow His ways. My prayer is for you all to prosper & succeed in ways that you could not even imagine.

- Let us walk in the way that God would have us walk and do what is right in His word!
- Let us focus on those things that delight the Lord and not on things that delight the world.
- Let us help one another to achieve the goals that God would have for us all.

If one part of the body succeeds doesn’t all of the body succeed? The answer is “yes”. We are ONE in the Lord.

Have a blessed New Year, 2015!
Fr. Hai

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wed., 12-1 a.m. & 4-5 p.m.
Friday, 5-6 a.m.

Our chapel remains open 24 hours a day because of the commitment made by those who take a weekly Holy Hour. Please commit!!

On another note, if you are making New Year resolutions, consider making a weekly Holy Hour. The rewards are immeasurable! Call Suzie Hamilton for info, 713-557-3036 or 713-729-0221.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TEACH ESL CLASSES
(REGULAR AND SUBSTITUTE)

Our parish provides ESL (English as a Second Language) classes to the community on Tuesday & Thursday evenings, 7-9 pm, beginning January 27, 2015.

If you can Volunteer at least one evening a week to this worthwhile endeavor, or be a Substitute, please contact Norman Palms at 713-726-0513 or normpalms@aol.com.

You do not need to speak Spanish! A training session will be provided for new teachers at no cost.

Collection Information July 2014-June 2015

Yearly Budgeted Offertory $1,850,523.00
Christmas Collection $62,926.00
Weekend Collection (12/28/2014)

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<th>WEEKLY</th>
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Additional Collections:

Children (Social Services) $ 52.00
Building Fund $ 340.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

It’s Golden! Gala and Auction
St. Thomas More School

Saturday, February 28, 2015

Now is the time to sponsor a table, donate an item and/or buy a ticket (limited availability!). (Please note the deadline for sponsorship names to be printed in the Gala invitation was Thursday, December 18, 2014.) For information, contact Kathy Prado in the school office at kprado@stmorenews.com or 713-729-3434

Upgrading your home theater?? Need a place for your old TV? The Youth Office is “wishing” for a donation of a working large screen HDTV for their Youth Center. Contact Matthew Hughey if you have a TV that might work for the youth of the parish, 713-729-2111.

CAN YOU HELP STM SCHOOL FIND THESE PICTURES?

We are looking for the group graduation picture from the following school years: 1966, 1968, and 1969. If you have one of these years, we would love to make a copy of it for the school files. Please contact Pat Flippen in the school office at 713.729.3434 to arrange pick-up. Thanks for your help!

Tuesday, January 6 will be our next Bridge game day! All card players welcome to join us in Donovan’s Den for a day of bridge. Bring a sandwich and $1.00, drinks and snacks provided. The fun starts at 9:45 a.m. so don’t be late.
**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Mass Intentions for the Week of January 4, 2015**

**Sunday, January 5**
- 6:30 a.m.: †Joe Peters
- 5:30 p.m.: †Souls In Purgatory

**Monday, January 6**
- 6:30 a.m.: †Theresa Roy
- 5:30 p.m.: †Reneé Herzig

**Tuesday, January 7**
- 6:30 a.m.: †Henry Nowak
- 5:30 p.m.: †Andrew Kane

**Wednesday, January 8**
- 6:30 a.m.: †Luis Ernesto Alcocer
- 8:15 a.m.: †Fr. Ed Abell
- 5:30 p.m.: Nhung & Vuong Ta

**Thursday, January 9**
- 6:30 a.m.: Jan Tennert
- 5:30 p.m.: †Betty Snell

**Friday, January 10**
- 9:00 a.m.: Carlos Villegas
- 5:00 p.m.: Special Intention

**Saturday, January 11**
- 7:30 a.m.: †Joanne Cummings
- 9:00 a.m.: †Earl Sheffield
- 11:00 a.m.: Ugo Alaribe
- 1:00 p.m.: For the Parish
- 5:00 p.m.: †Peter Long Bui
- 7:00 p.m.:

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**Respect Life Rosary & Divine Mercy**

On Sunday January 4, at 9:00 p.m. in the chapel, please join the Respect Life Committee in praying the rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty.

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**STM Vocations Committee Meeting:**

Scheduled for Tuesday, January 20 at 7:30 PM in the Adult Education Building. **Meeting is to gather parishioners/members to help promote the message for Vocations here at STM.**

Fr. Ken and Ed Sharp will lead the meeting with help from the Knights.

**Any and all parishioners interested in promoting vocations in the parish are welcome to attend.**

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**This week around STM....**

**Sunday, January 4—EPIPHANY PARTY**
- 9:30 a.m.: RCIA, Adult Ed. Bldg.
- 10:00 a.m.: Sacrament of the Sick, Church
- 5:30 p.m.: Spanish Choir, AE-St. Mary

**Monday, January 5**
- 9:00 a.m.: Bible Study, Rectory
- 6:30 p.m.: Sp. Legion of Mary, Room F
- 7:00 p.m.: Sp. Evang. Team, AE-St. Peter
- 7:00 p.m.: EPIC Study, Servant Hall
- 7:30 p.m.: Apostleship of the Cross (Sp.), AE-St. Paul

**Tuesday, January 6**
- 9:45 a.m.: Bridge, Donovan’s Den
- 5:30 a.m.: St. Vincent de Paul Society, AE-St. Paul

**Wednesday, January 7**
- 10:00 a.m.: EPIC Study, Servant Hall
- 6:30 p.m.: PTO Board, Library
- 7:00 p.m.: Respect Life Committee, Rectory
- 7:30 p.m.: RCIA Inquiry, AE-St. Peter

**Thursday, January 8**
- 6:00 p.m.: Sp. Choir, AE-St. Mary
- 7:00 p.m.: Word of Truth Bible Study, AE-St. Peter
- 7:30 p.m.: Confirmation 1 Class, Youth Center
- 6:30 p.m.: Legion of Mary, AE-St. Paul

**Friday, January 9—K OF C FISH DINNER**
- 9:15 a.m.: Altar Society, Church
- 5:00 p.m.: K of C Fish Dinner, Prinster Hall
- 6:00 p.m.: Legion of Mary Jr. (Sp.), Room F
- 7:00 p.m.: Sp. Choir, AE-St. Mary

**Saturday, January 10**
- 7:30 a.m.: Pastoral Council, Donovan’s Den
- 9:00 a.m.: Sp. Legion of Mary, Scout House
- 10:00 a.m.: STreamliners, Prinster Hall
- 3:30 p.m.: Confession, Church
- 6:15 p.m.: Confession, Church

**Sunday, January 11—K OF C SUPER BOWL MEAL PRESALE / BACK TO SCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFAST / STM PTO USED UNIFORM SALE**
- 9:00 a.m.: CCE Parents & Students, Prinster & School
- 9:30 a.m.: RCIA, Adult Ed. Bldg.
- 10:00 a.m.: Sacrament of the Sick, Church
- 11:00 a.m.: CCE Parents & Students, Prinster & School
- 5:30 p.m.: Spanish Choir, AE-St. Mary
- 6:30 p.m.: Sr. High Youth, Youth Center

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**Readings for the week of January 4, 2015**

**Sunday**
- The Epiphany of the Lord
- Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**Monday**
- Saint John Neumann, Bishop
- 1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Ps 2; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**Tuesday**
- Saint André Bessette, Religious
- 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72; Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday**
- Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
- 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72; Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday**
- 1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Ps 72; Lk 4:14-22a

**Friday**
- 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147; Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday**
- 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149; Jn 3:22-30

**Sunday**
- The Baptism of the Lord
- Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29 or Is 12;
- Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

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**January 4, 2015 is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord! The 3 Kings will be here at STM.**

No donuts, but King Cake, hot cocoa, and fun! **After morning Masses.**
STM YOUTH GROUP
Youth Office: 713-729-2111 For more info: stmhouston.org

The Youth Events will start back up on Sunday, January 11, 2015, The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Are you interested in leading high school aged girls closer to Christ, teaching them about feminine beauty, and what it really means to be a daughter of God? The STM Youth Group is looking for female volunteers to help with our Girls Group. If you are interested at all and feel God tugging at your heart please email or call Matthew Hughey, 713-729-2111 or matthew@stmhouston.org

Want the youth minister to come bring you and your friends pizza for lunch? Call the youth office and we will set up lunch for you and your friends at school. 713-729-2111

Are you looking to grow in your spiritual life? Perhaps the ministry of Spiritual Direction can help!

At St. Thomas More we have two certified spiritual directors available to meet with you one on one. This is a free ministry that provides a fellow Catholic Christian who is trained to walk with you along your journey with God. Meetings consist of sharing life circumstances and prayer experiences in order to find closeness with God and growth in doing His will in our lives.

To learn more you may contact: Magda Garcia (Spanish and English) at 281-793-2510 or Erin Robleto (English) at erobleto5@gmail.com to learn more about the ministry. Brochures are also available at the back of church and in the church offices.

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH
HOUSTON, TEXAS
January 4, 2015

Flocknote is a way for the parish to communicate with you! If you don’t have time to read the bulletin but want to know what’s going on, sign up for this service. There are 2 easy ways to register for Flocknote (pick one):

Visit our network at flocknote.com/stmhouston or

Text “Hillcroft” to 84576

Back to School Pancake Breakfast
By Knights of Columbus Southwest Council 3910
Featuring: Pancakes, Sausage, Coffee, Juice
January 11, 2015
8:00—11:00 a.m. Servant Hall
Adults: $5.00 Kids: $2.50

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest
Next Month Jan. 18th
At 1 PM in Msgr. Young Gym.

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2015 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest. The competition takes place in the Gym on Jan. 18th at 1 PM for local competition, district competition will follow at 4:00 p.m. for those who advance.

Winners progress through local, district and state competitions. International champions are announced by the Knights of Columbus headquarters based upon scores from the state-level competitions. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in this event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information contact: Mike Wark, 713-988-1609

Ask the Father to pour out His graces and make your family a living icon of His love.
The Parish Vocations Committee

StreaMliners (Adults over 50 only)-Happy New Year! $15 dues for the year—Adults over 50 only.

Saturday, Jan. 10-Monthly Meeting, 10:00 a.m. Prinster Hall, Speaker is Bill King, Public Policy columnist for The Houston Chronicle

(Don’t forget, peanut butter for STM food pantry, toiletries for LBJ Hospital, also Donation for Fisher House, make checks payable to St. Thomas More Church, 10330 Hillcroft, Houston, TX 77096)

Thursday, Jan. 22-Coushatta Casino Day Trip, $15 pp, coffee, donuts & hot kolaches @ 6:30 a.m., bus leaves at 7:00 a.m.

April 17 – 26, 2015 – 10 days/9 Nites Grand Canyon & Las Vegas & More, $966.00 per person double, Deluxe Motorcoach, 13 Meals: 8 C-Breakfast, 5 Dinners, 2 Nights Las Vegas, Petrified Forest National Park, Grand Canyon National Park, Visit Laughlin, N.V. Travel Insurance and Tip for Driver. $150.00 Deposit payable at the January Meeting.

All trips leave from the back parking area near Prinster Hall. Please leave at least 5 spaces open around the dumpsters and recycling bins. StreaMliners trips are open to all STM families and friends! For info, call Ed’s Tours 713-723-2035.

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Paul Winslow. Paul Winslow marks 20 years as a teacher of Language Arts for 7th and 8th grades at STM. Paul received his B.A. in social Psychology from Florida Atlantic University, and a Master of Education in Language Arts from the University of Houston. Paul and his wife, Elizabeth, have one daughter, Claire, who graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, and also earned an MBA. Mr. Winslow is also retired from the U.S. Navy where he served on nuclear submarines out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. His interests are tennis, skiing, and cooking. Paul says he “loves teaching at STM because it is an environment where both I and the students learn on a daily basis. I especially enjoy the many personalities of the students I teach, and they provide me with enthusiastic feedback (some positive!) on my teaching skills.”

Meet the STM Saintly Staff

EVENING PRAYER FOR JUSTICE
JANUARY 12  7:30 P.M.
ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH
Come together as a parish and celebrate Evening Prayer for Social Justice. Based primarily on the Psalms, the prayer service has appeal to all who hold the Psalms as a treasure.

St. Thomas More Women’s Annual Retreat
February 20-26, 2015
Growing in Intimacy with God and Ourselves
Fr. Louis Arceneaux, CM
For more information, contact:
Magda Garcia at 713-664-8035

Save the Date: Saturday February 21, 2015. FOR THE 10TH ANNUAL STEPS FOR STUDENTS 5K RUN/WALK! Register online. See our website under STM Support.

40 Days for Life at St. Thomas More School Benefits the Gabriel Project

Jr. High Students at St. Thomas More School honored the “40 Days of Life” by collecting money for The Gabriel Project. Students raised money in various ways, brought in their “Banks”, and challenged their parents to match their donations. At the end of the drive $1600.00 had been raised. Pictured is Jr. High Religion teacher, Esther Kana, as she presents the check to Gabriel Project representative, Sarah Roberts. Mrs. Roberts was overwhelmed by the generosity of the students and explained to them how this would benefit those that the Gabriel Project serves.
Del Padre Hai

2015 D.C. esta aquí!

“Dichoso el hombre que no va a reuniones de malvados, ni sigue el camino de los pecadores ni se sienta en la junta de burlones, mas le agra de la ley del Señor y medita su Ley de noche y día. Es como árbol plantado junto al rio, que da fruto a su tiempo y tiene su follaje siempre verde. Todo lo que el hace le resulta.” Salmos 1:1-3

Mis queridos feligreses de St. Thomas More. Es un año nuevo y Dios continua bendiciendo a aquellos que siguen Sus caminos.

Mi oración es para que todos ustedes prosperen y tengan éxito en maneras que ni siquiera pueden imaginarse.

-Permitáis caminar en el camino que Dios quiere que caminemos y hacer lo que es correcto en Su palabra!
-Permitáis enfocarnos en las cosas que agradan al Señor y no en las cosas que le agradan al mundo.
-Permitáis ayudarnos mutuamente para lograr las metas que Dios quiere para todos nosotros.

Si una parte del cuerpo tiene éxito no todo el cuerpo tiene éxito? La respuesta es “sí”. Somos UNO en el Señor.

Que tengan un año nuevo 2015 muy bendecido! Fr. Hai

¿Buscas hacer una donación para el fin de año?

Considere el proyecto de movilidad de los Caballeros y los niños de 8vo grado. Para el 50 aniversario de la escuela de St. Thomas More, el 8vo grado está tratando de comprar 50 silla de ruedas a través de la Misión Norteamericana de silla de ruedas. Esta Fundación ofrece sillas de ruedas para adultos, niños y veteranos. Junto con nuestros caballeros los estudiantes esperan adquirir estas sillas de ruedas. Cada uno cuesta $150. Están aceptando donaciones de cualquier cantidad y las aceptarán felizmente en memoria o en honor de alguien. Por favor haga sus cheques a la escuela de St. Thomas More. Puedes enviarlas a la escuela o dejarlas en la rectoría. Por favor, marque la envolura Proyecto Misionero de silla de ruedas. Si usted tiene tiempo, visite el sitio de internet de La misión americana de silla de ruedas y ver la diferencia que hacen al ayudar a los demás. Gracias por apoyar nuestro proyecto Regalo de movilidad!!!

FELIZ AÑO NUEVO A TODAS LAS FAMILIAS EN SANTO TOMAS MORO!!!

El 4 de Enero es la festividad de la Epifanía del Señor!!

Estarán los tres Reyes Magos en STM.

Habrá rosca de Reyes, chocolate y diversión!

Después de las Misas de la Mañana.

Paul Winslow. El Señor Paul Winslow celebra 20 años como maestro de Lenguaje y Literatura para el 7mo y 8vo grados en STM. Paul recibió su doctorado en Psicología Social en la Universidad Atlantic de la Florida, y una Maestría de Educación en Lenguaje y Literatura en la Universidad de Houston. El Señor Paul y su esposa, Elizabeth, tienen una hija, Claire, quien se graduó de la Universidad de Texas en Austin, y también recibió un doctorado. El Señor Winslow también está retirado de la Marina de los Estados Unidos en donde trabajo en los submarinos nucleares de Pearl Harbor, Hawái. Sus intereses son el tenis, esquiar y cocinar, el señor Winslow dice: “amo enseñar en STM porque es un entorno donde tanto como yo y los estudiantes aprendemos cosas básicas diariamente. Especialmente disfruto las muchas personalidades de los estudiantes que enseño, y ellos me proveen con entusiasmo una retroalimentación (algo positivo!) para mis técnicas de enseñanza.”
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK / ORACION POR LOS ENFERMOS


PRAY FOR ALL SERVING IN THE MILITARY, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN OUR PARISH FAMILY

SFC Paul Bergman, Col. David Eskelund, Megan Godsey, Traci Godsey, SPC Bryant Gradney, Sgt. Billy Janca, SSgt Bradley Louis, Mike McIntosh, Ebenezer E. Ohaegbulem, Charles U. Oparnozie, LCDR Russell Thiem, PFC Cristina Teresa Villegas

Austin Bennett Tice is a home schooled, Eagle Scout, National Merit Finalist, graduate of Georgetown University, former Captain in the United States Marine Corps and recipient of the 2012 George Polk Award for War Reporting. He is the eldest of seven children, and was born and raised in Texas.

In May of 2012, the summer before his final year at Georgetown Law School, he chose to go to Syria as a Freelance Journalist to report on the conflict there. Two days after his 31st birthday, on August 13, 2012, his editors, family and friends lost contact with Austin, as he was preparing to travel from Daraya, near Damascus, to Beirut, Lebanon.

Please continue to pray for the safe return of Austin to his family.

Please patronize our advertisers. It is through their support that our bulletin is provided at no cost to the parish. Thank you!